



Richland Soil and Water Conservation District

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2022 Richland County Local Work Group Meeting Report
June 2, 2022 • Clemson Sandhill Research and Education Center

Attendees: Kenny Mullis, Quinton Epps, Chanda Cooper, Mary Hannah Lindsay, Emily Bonilla-Gonzalez, Mary Dixon, Cassandra Fralix, Madison Graham, Charly Greenthaler, W Cory Heaton, Gabriel Kenne, Dan Peeples, Beau Sorenson, Chenille Williams, Otha Dillihay

Mullis welcomed attendees and facilitated introductions. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to prioritize local natural resource concerns in each of four land use categories (forestland, cropland, pastureland, and agricultural waste) for FY2023 Farm Bill Programs. Meeting participants identified and prioritized the following resource concerns:

Forestland

Ranking	Score	Resource Concern
1	19	#41 – Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates
2	18	#1 – Sheet and rill erosion
3	12	#5 – Bank erosion from streams, shorelines, or water conveyance channels
4	10	#10 – Soil organism habitat loss or degradation
5	10	#42 – Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms
6	4	#38 – Plant structure and composition
7	4	#40 – Wildfire hazard
8	1	#30 – Sediment transported to surface water
9	1	#37 – Plant productivity and health
10	0	#11 – Aggregate instability
11	0	#12 – Ponding and flooding
12	0	#20 – Nutrients transported to surface water
13	0	#22 – Pesticides transported to surface water
14	0	#28 – Petroleum, heavy metals, and other pollutants transported to surface water
15	0	#33 – Emissions of greenhouse gasses (GHGs)

Participants requested information about the number of trees harvested vs. planted in Richland County.

Cropland

Ranking	Score	Resource Concern
1	23	#8 – Organic matter depletion
2	23	#1 – Sheet and rill erosion
3	13	#41 – Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates
4	8	#22 – Pesticides transported to surface water

5	7	#37 – Plant productivity and health
6	4	#7 – Compaction
7	4	#10 – Soil organism habitat loss
8	2	#47 – Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations
9	0	#33 – Emissions of greenhouse gasses (GHGs)
10	0	#19 – Inefficient irrigation water use
11	0	#20 – Nutrients transported to surface water
12	0	#24 – Pathogens transported to surface water
13	0	#42 – Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms
14	0	#46 – Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities

Participants also discussed concerns related to farmer mental health, farm profitability and sustainability, farm livelihoods, and farmer retention.

Pastureland

Ranking	Score	Resource Concern
1	22	#8 – Organic matter depletion
2	12	#41 – Terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates
3	12	#4 – Classic gully erosion
4	10	#43 – Feed and forage imbalance
5	9	#5 – Bank erosion from streams, shrelines, or water conveyance channels
6	5	#7 – Compaction
7	5	#45 – Inadequate livestock water quantity, quality, and distribution
8	4	#20 – Nutrients transported to surface water
9	3	#24 – Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to surface water
10	3	#38 – Plant structure and composition
11	1	#42 – Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms
12	0	#22 – Pesticides transported to surface water
13	0	#30 – Sediment transported to surface water
14	0	#37 – Plant productivity and health
15	0	#39 – Plant pest pressure
16	0	#44 – Inadequate livestock shelter

Agricultural Waste

Ranking	Score	Resource Concern
1	27	#20 – Nutrients transported to surface water
2	18	#24 – Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to surface water
3	11	#7 – Compaction
4	11	#35 – Objectionable odors
5	6	#32 – Emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors
6	4	#46 – Energy efficiency of equipment and facilities
7	3	#25 – Pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids, or compost applications transported to groundwater
8	2	#47 – Energy efficiency of farming/ranching practices and field operations
9	2	#42 – Aquatic habitat for fish and other organisms

A preliminary report of these priorities will be presented to the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District (RSWCD) board at its June 13, 2022 meeting. The meeting will be held at 6pm at American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., Columbia, SC and is open to the public. Once approved by the RSWCD board, the preliminary report will be submitted to the SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) and the US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service. SCDNR will compile the reports of the 46 counties into a single statewide report, which will be provided to state leadership and distributed back to local SWCDs by the end of November.